Chapter 6 – Proposed Management Alternatives for Louse Canyon GMA

Development of management alternatives for the Louse Canyon GMA was guided by the "National Environmental Policy Act" (NEPA), BLM resource management planning regulations, and comments from the public that were received during scoping. The basic goal for developing alternatives was to prepare different combinations of management actions that address identified issues and concerns, and to resolve conflicts among uses. A range of resource management actions and allocations was developed based on identified issues and comments received from the public. Data obtained during the LCGMA assessment and presented in this evaluation form the foundation for development of these alternatives.

LCGMA is open to livestock grazing under the existing land use plan (SEORMP), and, under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), sustainable multiple use management is a priority. Therefore, there is strong emphasis in pursuing management alternatives that do not eliminate uses but manage them so that resource objectives can be achieved.

The six alternatives presented in this chapter are consistent with those analyzed in the SEORMP. However, the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects caused by implementing the actions proposed in each alternative, and the relative efficacy of alternate management actions, are not analyzed in this document. Detailed analyses of environmental consequences for each alternative will be part of NEPA analysis that will follow this evaluation. Finally, a preferred alternative, Alternative III, was identified and recommended for further analysis through the NEPA process.

Maps 15-17 depict pasture boundaries, fence locations, and range improvement sites for Alternatives I, III, and IV.

Range of Recommended Alternatives

Alternative I: Commodity

Alternative I emphasizes commodity production and extraction. Under this alternative, constraints on commodity production for the protection of sensitive resources would be the least restrictive possible within the limits defined by law, regulation, and BLM policy (Map 15).

Emphasis would be placed on construction and maintenance of rangeland projects (primarily fencing and water development) which mitigate livestock impacts, access underutilized forage resources, and improve livestock distribution. Temporary and permanent fencing and other structural developments that protect resources values, while retaining an optimum quantity of forage resources available for livestock use, would be a priority. These structures would include stream corridor fencing, wetland riparian fencing, pipelines, and trough relocations. The vegetation treatments proposed here would be used to enhance forage production, and would include one or more of the following methods: prescribed burning, herbicide application, brush-beating, and seeding, with temporary protection fencing. Starvation Seeding Pasture, however, would not receive any vegetation manipulation treatment despite its failure to meet Rangeland Health Standards 3

(Ecological Processes) and 5 (Native, T&E, and Locally Important Species), but would continue to be managed as a non-native seeding. Seedings would be retained to provide flexibility in resource management by relieving grazing pressure on vulnerable native pastures and riparian areas. Along with vegetation treatments, new pipelines would also make more forage available by providing water to dry areas previously inaccessible to livestock.

Livestock grazing use would increase in this alternative. This increase would be attributed to increased forage availability due to vegetation manipulations, increases in water availability, and fencing projects. To quantify the permanent availability of forage within the GMA, existing stocking levels were increased to 10 acre/AUM in native range and up to 3 acre/AUM in non-native seedings (Table 10, Alternative I—Livestock Stocking Level Calculations). The anticipated increase in grazing preference caused by these increased stocking levels would be allocated to the existing permit holders in proportion to their existing grazing preference. Maximum utilization would be 40% on native range and 60% for seedings.

Existing structural rangeland projects, such as pipelines, wells, and troughs, which support livestock grazing use would be maintained. Projects that no longer function to meet objectives would be abandoned and sites would be rehabilitated.

The following grazing systems and projects are those needed to implement Alternative I. These projects are designed to improve livestock distribution and provide conditions necessary for implementing the grazing system and meeting rangeland health standards.

Louse Canyon GMA (all allotments) Projects Summary:

New pipelines	36.75 miles
New fences	122.5 miles
New troughs	24 troughs
AUM change (#)	up to +10,123
Spring renovation/reconstruction	17 springs
Spring abandonment	6 springs
Spring development	1 spring
Upland vegetation treatments	17,900 acres

Grazing Systems and Projects by Allotment

(a) Anderson Allotment (#01401)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock numbers	AUMs
2/15 – 7/31	830 cows	3699

Pastures

North	02/15 – 03/31
Bull Flat	04/01 – 05/15 (alternates with Spring)
Spring	05/16 – 07/31 (alternates with Bull Flat)

)

Proposed Projects		
Project Name	**Units**	**Comments**
Bull Flat/Spring Pasture Division Fence	About ½ mile of fence	Fence along Toppin Creek to close gaps between these two pastures
Branding Corral	About ½ mile of total fencing to make corral	To be built in the SE corner of Spring Pasture; necessary because no facility available during proposed use period

(b) Campbell Allotment (#11306)

* indicates new pastures created to facilitate livestock management

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
3/01 – 10/15	2000 cows	16,720
6/01 – 9/15	20 horses	70

Pastures

Peacock	03/01 - 05/31 (for two consecutive years)
Twin Springs	03/01 - 05/31, when not in Peacock
*Sacramento Hill North	03/16 – 05/15, alternate with Sacramento Hill South
*Sacramento Hill South	05/16 - 07/15, alternate with Sacramento Hill North
Starvation Brush Control	06/01-8/14, deferred-rotation system with Starvation Seeding
Starvation Seeding	07/01-8/14, deferred-rotation system with Starvation Brush Control
Horse Hill	08/15 – 10/30
Larribeau	Fall trailing (9/1 – 10/31)

Proposed Projects		
Project	**Units**	**Comments**
Starvation Brush Control Vegetation Treatment	About 5,600 acres and approx. 4 miles of temporary fence	Treat that portion of Starvation Brush Control Pasture south of Antelope Creek and temporarily fence; to reduce shrub density and increase herbaceous cover
Spring Renovation and Development	3 springs renovated 1 spring developed 5 spring exclosures (approx. 1.25 miles of fence)	-*Bell Spring* – move trough off riparian area -*Disaster Spring* – move trough off riparian area -*Disaster Spring #2*-Cap pipe and fence source -*HH1 Spring* –develop, fence, place troughs off riparian area -*HH2* - *HH5* - fence wet meadows
Sacramento Hill Pasture Division and Pipeline Extension	4 miles of fence, 9 miles of pipeline, and 5 troughs	Split Sacramento Hill Pasture (into N and S) and provide permanent water via pipeline extension from Steer Canyon/Rawhide pipeline; to increase livestock distribution.
Stream Corridor Fencing to exclude grazing in riparian areas	Fence 13 miles of stream corridor for a total of 26 miles of fencing	-6 miles of Antelope Cr in Horse Hill Pasture with 3 water gaps -2 miles of Antelope Cr in Twin Springs and Sacramento Hill pastures -5 miles of Field Cr in Horse Hill Pasture with 2 watergaps
Cattle guard	1 cattle guard	Place a cattle guard near Steer Canyon Reservoir between Horse Hill and Lower Louse Canyon pastures

(c) Louse Canyon Community Allotment (#01307)

This allotment would be separated into three allotments: the *Wilkinson*, *Anderson*, and *Nouque* Allotments. Private allotments would contribute to improved land stewardship and ease of management and administration.

* indicates new pastures created to facilitate livestock management.

Wilkinson Allotment

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
3-01 – 10/30	871 cows	7,363
3/15 – 9/27	20 horses	123

Pastures

*Drummond Basin N&S	03/01 – 05/15
*Steer Canyon Native	05/16 – 05/31
*Lower Louse Canyon	06/01 – 07/15, alternate with Chipmunk
*Chipmunk	07/16 - 09/30, alternate with Lower Louse Canyon
*Chino	06/01 - 08/01
Steer Canyon Seeding	08/15 - 10/30
*Horse Pasture/FFR	10/01 - 02/28

Anderson Allotment

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
06/01 - 10/15	830 cows	3,739

Pastures

*Pole Creek	06/01 – 06/31 10/01 - 10/15
*Anderson	07/01 - 7/31, alternate with Cavietta
*Cavietta	08/01 - 9/30, alternate with Anderson

Nouque Allotment

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
3/16 – 0/30	469 cows	2,421
4/01 – 10/31	20 horses	95

Pastures

Frenchman Creek Seeding	03/16 - 05/31
*Upper Louse Canyon	06/01 - 09/30

Proposed projects

Projects	Units	Comments
Exchange Springs Pipeline Extension	2 miles of pipeline with 2 troughs	Extend pipeline to NE of Guadalupe Meadow private land; to improve livestock distribution
Louse Canyon Pasture Division Fences to subdivide Louse Canyon Allotment into three allotments	31 total miles of fencing	--25 miles of cross fencing to separate Louse Canyon Pasture into four pastures: Chipmunk, Cavietta, Anderson, Lower Louse Canyon --6 miles of fence to create Chino and Upper Louse Canyon pastures
Pole Creek Seeding and Steer Canyon Seeding Boundary Adjustment	-3.5 miles in Pole Creek Seeding -remove 2 miles of existing fence	Fence off 1500 seeded acres of Pole Creek Seeding and combine with Steer Canyon Seeding; isolates native range portion of Pole Creek Seeding to ensure lighter utilization
Rawhide Pipeline Extension	2 miles, 1 trough	Extend pipeline into NW end of Pole Creek Pasture; to replace water made unavailable by riparian fencing on Pole Cr
Rehabilitate Exchange and Coffee Pot Springs Pipelines	*Exchange Spring*— fence 0.5 miles *Coffee Pot Spring*— fence 1.5 miles and move trough out of riparian area	Move pipeline out of the riparian meadows and restore meadow; to remedy erosion and damage caused by original pipeline placement
Spring Renovation	13 springs renovated 6 springs abandoned	Because grazing systems are not compatible with riparian management, sources and wetlands for all springs below would be fenced for protection from concentrated livestock: *Bend* – move trough off riparian area *Chato Spring* - move trough off riparian area *Chipmunk Tributary Spring* - fence source *Delma Spring* - Head box work and re-lay pipe *Horse Hill Spring*--move trough

		off riparian area *Indian Spring*—reconstruct *Jack Cr Spring* – move trough off riparian area *Lime*—replace trough *Little Bog*—replace trough *Lone Tree* – reconstruct, move trough off riparian area *Monopoly Spring* - move trough off riparian area *New Road Spring* – move trough off riparian area *Pedroli Spring* - reconstruct Remove trough and rehab –*Edge, Unknown 1 & 2, Spare Spring, Unknown 3 below Deer Ck Cow Camp*
Steer Canyon Seeding Division Fence	About 6 miles	Split Steer Canyon Seeding (into Steer Canyon Seeding and Steer Canyon Native) to separate native from seeded range to allow lighter grazing use on native vegetation and Field Creek
Steer Canyon Seeding Vegetation Treatment	6,300 acres	Brushbeat or chemically treat vegetation (no reseeding) to reduce shrub cover in an existing non-native seeding
Stream Corridor Fencing to exclude grazing in riparian areas	20.25 total miles of fencing	--2.5 miles of gap fencing of W.L. Owyhee River drainages --9.25 miles of corridor/gap fencing of Jack and Deer Creek with 3 water gaps --Upper Pole Cr Exclosure--3.25 miles corridor/gap fencing of Pole Creek between Cavietta and Chipmunk pastures. --Lower Pole Cr Exclosure--2.75 miles N of private land between Pole Creek Pasture and Steer Canyon Seeding; also forms part of new Pole Creek Seeding division fence --2.5 miles fence around *Four Springs* (near Rawhide Spring) in

		Chipmunk Pasture

(d) Star Valley Community Allotment (#01402)

Grazing System

FMSA Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 - 09/30	677 cows	7,877
03/15 - 10/31	50 horses	352

Nouque Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 – 9/30	363 cows	2,685
03/15 –10/31	17 horses	137

Pastures

Tristate	03/01 – 5/31 (Nouque)
N. Stoney Corral	03/01 – 5/31 (Fort McDermitt Stockman's Assoc.(FMSA))
N. Tent Creek	06/01 – 09/31 (year 1) FMSA
S. Tent Creek	06/01 – 09/30 (year 2) FMSA
S. Tent Creek	06/01 – 09/30 (Nouque)

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Flag Crossing Gap Fence	0.25 miles	At Flag Crossing on W. L. Owyhee River; to exclude livestock from river corridor
New Pipeline Development	23.75 miles of pipeline and 16 troughs	To provide reliable water sources and improve livestock distribution: -8 mile pipeline and 5 troughs from Twin Buttes Well -10 mile pipeline and 5 troughs from Tent Creek Cow Camp Well

		-5.5 mile pipeline and 4 troughs from Willow Creek Butte -0.25 mile pipeline and 1 trough from White Trails Well -box in 1 trough at Stony Corrals to water both Stony Corral and N. Tent Creek pastures
Spring Renovation	2 springs	To protect riparian areas from livestock use: *Oregon Butte Springs*-reconstruct *Cairn Spring*-Fence source, pipe to offsite water trough
Stream Corridor Fencing to exclude grazing in riparian areas	21 miles of fencing	Corridor fence 11 miles of Tent Creek and the 2 springs below
Tristate Vegetation Treatment	Treat 6,000 acres and temporary fence	Burn and reseed with native species to reduce shrub cover and increase forage within Tristate and North Tent Creek pastures
Well Development or Reconstruction	6 wells and associated equipment	To provide reliable water sources and improve livestock distribution: Reconstruct wells at White Trails, Pidgeontoe Lake, and Stony Corrals; develop new wells at Twin Buttes, Tent Creek Cow Camp, and Willow Creek Butte;

(e) Little Owyhee Allotment (#01404)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock	AUMs

	Numbers	
06/01 – 9/30	222 cows	892

Pastures
S. Tent Creek 06/01 – 9/30

Proposed Projects
No new projects would be built or reconstructed.

(f) Quinn River Allotment (#01403)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/16 – 9/30	59 cows	384
04/01 - 10/31	9 horses	63

Pastures
*Upper Louse Canyon 06/01 – 9/30

Proposed Projects
No new projects would be built or reconstructed.

(g) Ambrose Maher Allotment (#01102)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock numbers	AUMs
2/12 – 5/24	40 cows	134
10/16 - 10/29	830 cows	383

Proposed Projects
No new projects would be built or reconstructed.

Alternative II: Existing Situation / No Action

This alternative represents current management, or the "no action" alternative required by NEPA regulations. It is based on implementation of the Southern (Jordan) Management Framework Plan (MFP), as amended, and incorporates livestock grazing program decisions from the Southern Malheur Grazing Management EIS, as well as associated rangeland program summaries and updates. Alternative II continues the authorization of livestock grazing use consistent with multiple use and sustained yield objectives as identified in these plans. Resource values or sensitive habitats would receive management emphasis at present levels.

Adjustments to terms and conditions of livestock grazing authorization, based on periodic allotment evaluations, would be implemented to progress toward meeting objectives of existing land use plans. Administrative solutions, including reductions in levels of authorized livestock use, would be considered, as necessary, to meet management objectives. Structural rangeland improvements and vegetative treatments would be implemented, as appropriate, to mitigate impacts, access underutilized forage resources, and improve livestock distribution, consistent with other resource management objectives. Vegetative manipulation projects that emphasize the conversion of less productive annual vegetative communities to productive perennial ground cover would be implemented, as identified in the vegetative management alternatives of this document. Utilization limits would continue to be adhered to as designated in the existing land use plans. Standard implementation procedures for construction of rangeland improvements are presented in the SEORMP, Appendix S.

For this alternative the maximum utilization level would be 40% and 50% in native range, and 60% for seedings.

Existing structural rangeland projects that support livestock grazing use would be maintained. Projects which no longer function to meet objectives would be abandoned and sites would be rehabilitated.

Louse Canyon GMA (all allotments) Projects Summary:

Pipeline renovation	2 miles
New fences	5.75 miles
New troughs	0
AUM change (#)	0
Spring renovation/reconstruction	17 springs
Spring abandonment	6 springs
Spring development	0
Upland vegetation treatments	0

Grazing Systems and Projects by Allotment

(a) Anderson Allotment (#01401)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 – 6/25	830 cows	2,857

Pastures

North	03/01 – 03/31
Bull Flat	04/01 – 07/31
Spring	04/01 – 07/31

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(b) Campbell Allotment (#11306)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01– 10/30	2054 cows	14,087
06/01 – 0/15	20 horses	70

Pastures

Peacock	Rest (year 1) 03/01 – 06/15 (year 2)
Twin Springs	03/01 – 06/15 (year 1) Rest (year 2)
Sacramento Hill	03/01 – 06/15 (2 years) Rest (1 year)
Starvation Brush Control	06/01 - 09/01 (year 1) 07/15 - 09/01 (year 2
Starvation Seeding	07/15 – 09/01 (year 1) 06/01 - 09/01 (year 2)
Horse Hill	08/01 – 10/30
Larribeau	Fall trailing (9/1 – 10/31)

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**

Spring renovation	1 spring abandoned 2 springs renovated	-*Disaster Spring* – remove trough -*Disaster Spring #2*-Cap pipe and fence source -*Bell Spring* – move trough off riparian area to protect from concentrated livestock use

(c) Louse Canyon Community Allotment (#01307)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 – 0/30	2209 cows	11,088
04/01 – 0/30	40 horses	218

Pastures

Drummond Basin	03/01 – 05/15
Steer Canyon Seeding	05/01 – 06/15 & 08/01 - 9/30
Louse Canyon (Upper & Lower)	04/15 – 10/31
Pole Creek Seeding	05/20 - 05/30 & 09/15 – 10/15

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
New Road Spring and Three Weeks Spring Road Repair	About ¼ mile	Repair or relocate road near *New Road Spring* where it crosses a wetland*;* Build up road crossing to keep water from going down road at *Three Weeks Spring*
Rehabilitate Exchange and Coffee Pot Springs Pipelines	*Exchange Spring*— fence 0.5 miles *Coffee Pot Spring*— fence 1.5 miles and move trough out of riparian area	Move pipeline out of the riparian meadows and restore meadow; to remedy erosion and damage caused by original pipeline placement
Spring Renovation	13 springs renovated 5 springs abandoned	Because grazing systems are not compatible with riparian management, only those springs below where sources and wetlands would be fenced would

		be protected from grazing use: *Bend* – move trough off riparian area; fence source *Chato Spring* - move trough off riparian area *Chipmunk Tributary Spring* - fence source *Delma Spring* - Head box work and re-lay pipe *Horse Hill Spring*--move trough off riparian area *Indian Spring*—reconstruct *Jack Cr Spring* – move trough off riparian area *Lime*—replace trough *Little Bog*—replace trough *Lone Tree* – reconstruct, move trough off riparian area *Monopoly Spring* - move trough off riparian area *New Road Spring* – move trough off riparian area *Pedroli Spring* - reconstruct Remove trough and rehab –*Edge, Unknown 1 & 2, Spare Spring, Unknown 3 below Deer Ck Cow Camp*

(d) Star Valley Community Allotment (#01402)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 – 0/31	1043 cows	6349
03/15 -10/31	67 horses	489

Pastures

Tristate	03/01 – 5/31 (Nouque)
N. Stony Corral	03/01 – 5/31 (FMSA)
N. Tent Creek	06/01 – 09/31 (year 1) (FMSA) Rest (year 2)
S. Tent Creek	06/01 – 10/31 (Nouque and FMSA)

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Spring Renovation	2 springs	To protect riparian areas from concentrated livestock use: *Oregon Butte Springs*-reconstruct *Cairn Spring*-fence source, pipe to offsite water trough

(e) Little Owyhee Allotment (#01404)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
06/01 – 9/30	222 cows	892

Pastures
S. Tent Creek 06/01 – 9/30

Proposed Projects
No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(f) Quinn River Allotment (#01403)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/16 – 9/30	59 cows	384
04/01 - 10/31	9 horses	63

Pastures
Louse Canyon 06/01 – 9/30

Proposed Projects
No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(g) Ambrose Maher Allotment (#01102)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock numbers	AUMs
2/12 – 2/28	397 cows	222
3/01 - 5/30	38 cows	114
10/15 - 10/21	785 cows	181

Proposed Projects
No new projects would be built or reconstructed.

Alternative III: Proposed

Alternative III is recommended to be the BLM's preferred alternative. It provides for a sustained yield of forage for livestock grazing, while maintaining resource values for long-term multiple use consistent with resource objectives. Approximately 15,000 acres (Map 16) would not be allocated to livestock grazing use and would be outside any livestock grazing allotment. Much of this acreage is associated with the West Little Owyhee River Wild & Scenic River corridor. Constraints to commodity production would be implemented to protect sensitive resources, especially streams, wetlands, and riparian areas. Such constraints generally would be of a lesser degree than under Alternative IV.

A combination of administrative solutions (such as season-of-use revisions, livestock exclusion, and stocking level adjustments) and rangeland project development would be implemented, as necessary, to provide a sustained level of livestock use while maintaining resource values. To improve and restore riparian areas, the grazing systems in those pastures which did not meet Rangeland Health Standard 2 (Riparian/wetlands) would be changed to systems conducive to riparian health. These new grazing systems would include early season use, rest, and to some extent, segregation of riparian pastures and upland pastures. New rangeland projects (pipelines and troughs) in South Tent Creek Pasture would provide water to upland pastures where new protective riparian measures deny livestock access to water. New pipeline and cross-fencing in Sacramento Hill Pasture would facilitate livestock movement and improve animal distribution. However, no livestock management action would be implemented, including project construction, which would increase grazing use within portions of a pasture in late-seral to Potential Natural Community ecological status and currently unutilized or only slightly utilized by livestock, unless implementation of that action would result in a net benefit toward attaining management objectives within the area of limited livestock use and adjoining areas. Existing structural rangeland projects, predominantly developed springs and accompanying troughs, would be maintained where beneficial to livestock management and other resource values, but projects that no longer meet livestock or resource management objectives would be abandoned and sites would be rehabilitated.

Livestock usage in this alternative would not increase over current levels. The maximum allowable utilization level in native range would be "light" (21-40%) (USDI, BLM 1996, *Utilization Studies and Residual Measurements*) to ensure that native early-season pastures continue to maintain existing plant species assemblages. Maximum utilization levels for seeded range would be 60%.

Upland vegetation treatment in Starvation Brush Control Pasture would target reduction of shrub cover and increase of herbaceous understory vegetation. Treatment methods may include one or more of the following: prescribed burning, herbicide application, brush-beating, and reseeding with native species. Standard implementation procedures for rangeland improvements are presented in the SEORMP, Appendix S.

The following grazing systems and projects would be needed in order to implement Alternative III. These projects are designed to improve livestock distribution and provide conditions necessary for implementing the grazing system and meeting rangeland health standards.

Louse Canyon GMA (all allotments) Projects Summary:

New Pipelines	16 miles
New Fences	64.25 miles
New Troughs (#)	9
AUM change (#)	0
Spring renovation/reconstruction	17 springs
Spring abandonment	6 springs
Spring development	0
Upland Vegetation Treatments	3500 acres

Grazing Systems and Projects by Allotment

(a) Anderson Allotment (#01401)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
02/15 – 6/30	850 cows	2,857

Pastures

North	02/15 – 03/31
Bull Flat	04/01 – 05/15 (alternates with Spring Pasture)
Spring	05/16 – 06/30 (alternates with Bull Flat Pasture)

Proposed Projects		
Project Name	**Units**	**Comments**
Bull Flat/Spring Pasture Division Fence	About ½ mile of fence	Fence along Toppin Creek to close gaps between these two pastures
Toppin Butte Reservoir Rehabilitation	1 reservoir	Abandon project, smooth and reseed to native species

(b) Campbell Allotment (#11306)

* indicates new pastures created to facilitate livestock management.

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 – 0/15	2054 cows	14,087
05/01 –10/15	20 horses	70

Pastures

Peacock	Rest or 3/1 – 05/31
Twin Springs	03/1 – 05/31 or rest
*Sacramento Hill North	03/16 – 05/15, alternate with Sacramento Hill South
*Sacramento Hill South	05/16 - 07/15, alternate with Sacramento Hill North
*Horse Hill (N&S)	04/15 – 05/31 (350 cows) 06/01 – 07/15 (1945 cows)
Starvation Seeding	07/16 – 09/15
Starvation Brush Control	09/16 - 10/15
Larribeau	Fall trailing (9/1 – 10/31)

Proposed Projects		
Project	**Units**	**Comments**
Cattle Guard	1 cattle guard	Place one cattle guard near Steer Canyon Reservoir between Horse Hill and North

		Louse Canyon pastures
Sacramento Hill Pasture Division and Pipeline Extension	4 miles of fence, 9 miles of pipeline, and 3 troughs	Split Sacramento Hill Pasture (into N and S) and provide permanent water via pipeline extension from Steer Canyon/Rawhide pipeline to increase livestock distribution.
Spring Renovation and Exclosures	1 spring abandoned 1 spring renovated 2 spring exclosures	*Disaster Spring* – remove trough *Disaster Spring #2*—cap pipe and fence source *Bell Spring* – move trough off riparian area *HH-1 Spring* – fence source and wetland
Star Valley Road Fence	About 11 miles of fence	Split Horse Hill Pasture (into N and S) along Star Valley Road to avoid excessive critical growing season use and improve livestock distribution
Starvation Brush Control Vegetation Treatment	About 3,500 acres and approx. 4 miles of temporary fence	Treat that portion of Starvation Brush Control south of Antelope Creek and temporarily fence; to reduce shrub density and increase herbaceous cover

(c) Louse Canyon Community Allotment (#01307)

*indicates new pastures created to facilitate livestock management.

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 –10/15	2209 cows	11,088
04/01 –10/15	40 horses	218

Pastures

Drummond Basin	03/01 – 05/01
*Steer Canyon Native	05/01 – 05/31
*Upper Louse Canyon	05/15 – 09/30 (20 horses) 06/01 – 07/30 (year 1)

	06/01 – 06/30 (year 2)
*Middle Louse Canyon	06/01 – 07/15
*Lower Louse Canyon	07/16 – 08/31
Pole Creek Seeding	09/01 – 09/30
Steer Canyon Seeding	09/01 – 10/15

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Louse Canyon Pasture Division Fence	About 8 miles	Split Louse Canyon Pasture (into Lower and Middle) to separate riparian areas from uplands to allow early season use for riparian; most riparian would be in Middle Louse Canyon Pasture
Lower Pole Creek and Four Springs Exclosures	Pole Creek— fence 3 miles *Four Springs*— fence 1.5 miles	To protect riparian areas in late-season-use pastures from livestock; fence also forms part of new Pole Creek Seeding division fence: -Corridor fence 1.5 miles of lower Pole Creek in Pole Creek Seeding -Exclude *Four Springs* in Lower Louse Canyon Pasture near Rawhide Spring
New Road Spring and Three Weeks Spring Road Repair	About ¼ mile	Repair or relocate road near *New Road Spring* where it crosses a wetland*;* Build up road crossing to keep water from going down road at *Three Weeks Spring*
Pole Creek Seeding and Steer Canyon Seeding Boundary Adjustment	-3.5 miles in Pole Creek Seeding -remove 2 miles of existing fence	Fence off 1500 seeded acres of Pole Creek Seeding and combine with Steer Canyon Seeding; isolates native range portion of Pole Creek Seeding to ensure lighter utilization
Rawhide Spring Pipeline Extension	0.75 miles of pipeline and 1 trough	Extend existing pipeline into Pole Creek Seeding on north end to compensate for livestock exclusion (Lower Pole Cr Exclosure) from traditional watering areas on lower Pole Creek

Rehabilitate Exchange and Coffeepot Springs Pipelines	*Exchange Spring*—fence 0.5 miles *Coffee Pot Spring*-fence 1.5 miles and move trough out of riparian area	Move pipeline out of riparian meadows and restore meadow; to remedy erosion and damage caused by original pipeline placements
Spring Renovation	13 springs renovated 5 springs abandoned	Because grazing systems are compatible with riparian management, fencing would not be needed to protect most springs listed below from grazing use: Renovate: *Bend* – move trough off riparian area; fence meadow *Chato Spring* - move trough off riparian area *Chipmunk Tributary Spring* - fence source *Delma Spring* - Head box work and re-lay pipe *Horse Hill Spring*--move trough off riparian area *Indian Spring*—reconstruct *Jack Cr Spring* – move trough off riparian area *Lime*—replace trough *Little Bog*—replace trough *Lone Tree* – reconstruct, move trough off riparian area *Monopoly Spring* - move trough off riparian area *New Road Spring* – move trough off riparian area *Pedroli Spring* - reconstruct Abandon and rehab –*Edge, Unknown 1 & 2, Spare Spring, Unknown 3 below Deer Ck Cow Camp*
Steer Canyon Seeding Division Fence	About 6 miles	Split Steer Canyon Seeding (into Steer Canyon Seeding and Steer Canyon Native) to separate native from seeded range to allow

		lighter grazing use on native vegetation and Field Creek
Upper Pole Creek Exclosure	Approx. 2 miles of fence	Fence along Pole Creek above Wilkinson private land in Lower Louse Canyon Pasture, north of Bend of Pole, to protect riparian area in a late-season-use pasture from livestock

(d) Star Valley Community Allotment (#01402)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03-01 – 9/30	1043 cows	6349
03/15 - 0/31	67 horses	489

Pastures

Tristate	03/01 – 5/31 (Nouque)
N. Tent Creek	03/01 – 05/31 (FMSA)
N. Stony Corral	06/01 – 7/31 (FMSA)
S. Tent Creek	08/01 – 09/30
*SW Tent Creek	Rest (year 1) (Nouque)
	07/01 – 07/31 (year 2)

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Flag Crossing Gap Fence	0.25 mile of fence	At Flag Crossing on W. L. Owyhee River; to exclude livestock from river corridor
Freeway Reservoir Rehabilitation	1 reservoir	Abandon reservoir and rehabilitate the area
Jack Creek Water Gap Exclosure	No fence needed	Close water gap to livestock to allow riparian recovery
New Pipeline Development	Tent Cr Cow Camp--7 miles and 3 troughs; White Trails--0.25 miles and 1 trough	Tent Creek Cow Camp Pipeline– to compensate for livestock exclusion (Tent Creek Riparian Exclosure) from traditional watering areas on Tent Creek White Trails Pipeline—to connect

		well to trough that would provide water to both Tristate and S. Tent Cr pastures
South Tent Creek Pasture Division Fence	About 12 miles	Split S. Tent Creek Pasture to separate riparian areas from upland areas to allow early-season-use for riparian; most riparian would be in SW Tent Creek Pasture
Spring Renovation	2 springs	*Oregon Butte Spring* – reconstruct *Cairn Spring*– move trough off riparian area, fence source
Tent Cr Cow Camp Well Development	1 well, pump, pipe, and storage tank	Install pump to pipe water to storage tank to provide water for Tent Cr Cow Camp pipeline (see below)
Tent Creek Riparian Exclosure Fence	Corridor fence 1 mile of Tent Creek for a total of 2 miles of fence	Fence below Cow Camp to exclude riparian area from S. Tent Creek Pasture to protect riparian area from concentrated livestock use

(e) Little Owyhee Allotment (#01404)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
06/01 – 9/30	222 cows	892

Pastures
S. Tent Creek 06/01 – 09/30

Proposed Projects
No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(f) Quinn River Allotment (#01403)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/16 – 7/30	86 cows	384

04/01 - 10/31	9 horses	63

Pastures

*Upper Louse Canyon	04/01 – 10/31 (9 horses) 03/16 – 07/30 (year 1) 03/16 – 06/30 (year 2)

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(g) Ambrose Maher Allotment (#01102)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock numbers	AUMs
2/12 – 5/24	40 cows	134
10/16 - 10/29	830 cows	383

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed.

Alternative IV: Enhance Natural Values

Alternative IV emphasizes natural values and the functioning of natural systems. Commodity production would be substantially constrained to protect sensitive resources or accelerate improvement in their condition (Map 17).

Emphasis would be placed on the identification and implementation of administrative solutions, such as seasons-of-use revisions, implementation of rest, and stocking level adjustments, to minimize livestock impacts. A new pasture, Upper Louse Canyon, would be designated to improve management of grazing systems. This pasture is naturally separated from Louse Canyon Pasture and would not need division fencing. To enhance and restore riparian areas, the grazing systems in those pastures which did not meet Rangeland Health Standard 2 (Riparian/wetlands) would be changed to systems conducive to riparian health. These new grazing systems would include early season use and rest, but construction of temporary or permanent fencing to exclude livestock from riparian areas would be minimized. No new water developments would be constructed, and other structural rangeland projects, such fences, would only be implemented in a manner which emphasizes resource values.

Existing structural rangeland projects would be maintained where beneficial to resource values. Projects which no longer meet livestock or resource management objectives and enhance resource values may be abandoned and sites would be rehabilitated. The remaining projects would be maintained to design standards to meet management objectives.

Livestock usage in this alternative would decrease compared to current levels. The maximum utilization level in native range would be 30% to ensure that native early-season pastures continued to maintain existing plant species assemblages. Maximum utilization levels for seeded range would be 50%.

Upland vegetation treatment in Starvation Brush Control Pasture would target reduction of shrub cover and increase of herbaceous understory vegetation. Treatment methods may include one or more of the following: prescribed burning, herbicide application, brush-beating, and reseeding with native species. Standard implementation procedures for rangeland improvements are presented in the SEORMP, Appendix S.

The following grazing systems and projects would be needed in order to implement Alternative IV. These projects are designed to improve livestock distribution and provide conditions necessary for implementing the grazing system and meeting rangeland health standards.

Louse Canyon GMA (all allotments) Projects Summary:

New pipelines	2 miles
New fences	5.5 miles
New troughs (#)	0
AUM change (#)	-12,453
Spring renovation/reconstruction	17 springs
Spring abandonment	6 springs
Spring development	0
Upland vegetation treatments	3500 acres

Grazing Systems and Projects by Allotment

(a) Anderson Allotment (#01401)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 – 7/01	830 cows	2,857

Pastures

North	03/01 – 03/31
Bull Flat	04/01 – 05/15

Spring 05/16 – 07/01

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Bull Flat/Spring Pasture Division Fence	About ½ mile of fence	Fence along Toppin Creek to close gaps between these two pastures
Toppin Butte Reservoir Rehabilitation	1 reservoir	Abandon project, smooth and reseed to native species

(b) Campbell Allotment (#11306)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01–09/30	1643 cows	11,501
06/01–10/15	16 horses	72

Pastures

Peacock	Rest (2 years) 03/01 – 05/15 (2 years)
Twin Springs	03/1 – 05/15 (2 years) Rest (2 years)
Horse Hill	06/01 – 07/15 (year 1) Rest (year 2)
Sacramento Hill	03/16 – 07/15 (2 years) Rest (1 year)
Starvation Seeding	07/01 – 09/30 deferred-rotation with Starvation Brush Control
Starvation Brush Control	08/16 - 09/30 deferred-rotation with Starvation Seeding
Larribeau	Fall trailing (9/1 – 10/31)

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Starvation Brush Control Vegetation Treatment	About 3,500 acres and approx. 4 miles of temporary fence	Treat that portion of Starvation Brush Control south of Antelope Creek and temporary

		fence; to reduce shrub density and increase herbaceous cover
Spring Renovation and Exclosures	1 spring abandoned 1 spring renovated 2 spring exclosures	*Disaster Spring* – remove trough *Disaster Spring #2*—cap pipe and fence source *Bell Spring* – move trough off riparian area *HH-1 Spring* – fence source and wetland

(c) Louse Canyon Community Allotment (#01307)

* indicates new pastures created to facilitate livestock management.

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 – 8/30	1767 cows	2568
04/01 – 8/30	40 horses	200

Pastures

Drummond Basin	03/01 – 05/30
*Lower Louse Canyon	06/01 – 07/15 (year 1) Rest (year 2)
*Upper Louse Canyon	Rest (year 1, Nouque will use S. Tent Cr Pasture) 06/01-08/01 (year 2)
Steer Canyon Seeding	07/16–09/01
Pole Creek Seeding	07/16–09/01

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Lower Pole Creek Exclosure	Pole Creek—fence 3 miles	Corridor fence 1.5 miles of lower Pole Creek in Pole Creek Seeding; to protect riparian areas in late-season-use pasture from livestock
New Road Spring and Three Weeks Spring Road repair	About ¼ mile	Repair or relocate road near *New Road Spring* where it crosses a wetland*;* Build up road crossing to keep water from going down road at

		Three Weeks Spring
Rehabilitate Exchange and Coffeepot Springs Pipelines	*Exchange Spring*—fence 0.5 miles *Coffee Pot Spring*-fence 1.5 miles and move trough out of riparian area	Move pipeline out of the riparian meadows and restore meadow; to remedy erosion and damage caused by original pipeline placements
Spring Renovation	13 springs renovated 5 springs abandoned	Because grazing systems are compatible with riparian management, fencing would not be needed to protect most springs below from grazing use: Renovate: *Bend* – move trough off riparian area; fence meadow *Chato Spring* - move trough off riparian area *Chipmunk Tributary Spring* - fence source *Delma Spring* - Head box work and re-lay pipe *Horse Hill Spring*--move trough off riparian area *Indian Spring*—reconstruct *Jack Cr Spring* – move trough off riparian area *Lime*—replace trough *Little Bog*—replace trough *Lone Tree* – reconstruct, move trough off riparian area *Monopoly Spring* - move trough off riparian area *New Road Spring* – move trough off riparian area *Pedroli Spring* - reconstruct Abandon and rehab –*Edge, Unknown 1 & 2, Spare Spring, Unknown 3 below Deer Ck Cow Camp*

(d) Star Valley Community Allotment (#01402)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03-01 – 8/30	834 cows	5004
03/15 - 10/31	67 horses	503

Pastures

Tristate	03/01 – 05/31 (Nouque)
N. Tent Creek	03/01 – 04/30 (FMSA)
S. Tent Creek	06/01 – 07/15 (year 1)(Nouque-200cows, FMSA-677 cows,)
	09/16 - 09/20 (FMSA, annual trailing)
	Rest (year 2) (Nouque will use U Louse Canyon Pasture)
N. Stony Corral	07/16 – 09/15

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Freeway Reservoir Rehabilitation	1 reservoir	Abandon reservoir and rehabilitate the area
Spring Renovation	2 springs	*Oregon Butte Spring* – reconstruct *Cairn Spring*– move trough off riparian area, fence source

(e) Little Owyhee Allotment (#01404)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
06/01 –07/15	222 cows	892

Pastures

S. Tent Creek	06/01 – 07/15 (year 1)
	Rest (year 2)

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(f) Quinn River Allotment (#01403)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/16 – 7/30	59 cows	384
04/01 - 10/31	9 horses	63

Pastures

*Upper Louse Canyon	04/01 – 10/31 (9 horses) 03/16 – 07/30 (year 1) Rest (year 2)

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(g) Ambrose Maher Allotment (#01102)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock numbers	AUMs
2/12 – 2/28	397 cows	222
3/01 - 5/30	40 cows	114
9/01 - 9/07	830 cows	181

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed.

Alternative V: Protect Sensitive Values

This alternative emphasizes natural values and the functioning of natural systems, and would exclude commodities and certain other public uses from pastures with sensitive resource values. It would provide for a sustained yield of forage for livestock at a limited level.

Emphasis would be placed on the identification and implementation of administrative solutions, such as seasons-of-use revisions, implementation of rest, and stocking level adjustments, to minimize livestock impacts. Livestock grazing would be excluded from those pastures containing riparian vegetation communities which, due to current livestock management actions, are Functioning-At-Risk with a Downward trend or are not properly functioning, until appropriate livestock management can be implemented and a condition of Functioning-At-Risk with an Upward trend is attained.

In addition, certain pastures would be partitioned from affected grazing allotments and would not be allocated to livestock grazing based on the following criteria:

1) the pasture includes redband trout strongholds or habitat of species listed under the Endangered Species Act;
2) the pasture includes substantially intact sagebrush-dependent species habitat, using sage grouse as an indicator species;

Structural rangeland projects would only be implemented in a manner that emphasizes resource values. Construction of temporary or permanent fencing to exclude livestock from resource values would be minimized. Vegetation manipulation projects would emphasize the conversion of rangelands dominated by exotic annuals (as occur in Starvation, Pole Creek, and Steer Canyon seedings) to properly functioning native perennial communities. Treatment methods may include one or more of the following: prescribed burning, herbicide application, brush-beating, and reseeding with native species. Standard implementation procedures for rangeland improvements are presented in SEORMP, Appendix S.

Existing structural rangeland projects would be maintained where beneficial to resource values, but projects which no longer meet livestock or resource management objectives would be abandoned and sites rehabilitated.

No livestock management action would be implemented which would increase grazing use within portions of a pasture in late to PNC ecological status and currently unutilized or only slightly utilized by livestock.

Livestock usage would decrease in this alternative. To quantify the permanent availability of forage within the GMA, existing stocking levels were decreased to a conservative stocking rate of 15 acres per AUM, except in those pastures where the average acreage per AUM was greater than 15 acres per AUM. Maximum utilization levels would be set at 30% for native range. Seedings would be restored to native perennial vegetation.

The following grazing systems and projects would be needed in order to implement Alternative V. These projects are designed to restore functioning of natural rangeland systems and to meet rangeland health standards.

Louse Canyon GMA (all allotments) Projects Summary:

Pipelines	Remove 21 miles
Fences	Remove 100 miles
Troughs	Remove 20 troughs
AUM change (#)	-28,763
Spring renovation/reconstruction	0
Spring abandonment	28 springs
Spring development	0

Upland vegetation treatments	24,300 acres

Grazing Systems and Projects by Allotment

(a) Anderson Allotment (#01401)

Closed to grazing

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Range Project Abandonment	19 miles of fence	Remove fencing in pastures not allocated to grazing
Toppin Butte Reservoir Rehabilitation	1 reservoir	Abandon project, smooth and reseed to native species

(b) Campbell Allotment (#11306)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01– 09/30	830 cows	5,994
06/01—9/30	20 horses	80

Pastures

Peacock	03/01 - 05/31
Twin Springs North	03/01 - 05/31
Starvation Seeding	05/01 - 07/30 (year 1)
	08/01 - 09/30 (year 2)
Starvation Brush Control	08/01 - 09/30 (year 1)
	05/01 - 07/30 (year 2)
Twin Springs Middle	closed
Twin Springs South	closed
Horse Hill	closed
Sacramento Hill	closed
Larribeau	closed

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**

Starvation Seeding Vegetation Treatment	14,000 acres	Chemically treat and seed with native forbs, grasses, and shrubs; to convert exotic plant community to native perennials
Range Project Abandonment	21 miles of fence and 3 spring developments	Remove fencing and spring developments (e.g.troughs, pipelines) in pastures not allocated to grazing

(c) Louse Canyon Community Allotment (#01307)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01– 06/30	370 cows	751

Pastures

Pole Creek Seeding	closed
Steer Canyon Seeding	05/01 – 06/30 (year 1)
	03/01 – 04/30 (year 2)
Pole Creek Seeding	closed
Drummond Basin	closed
Louse Canyon (Upper & Lower)	closed

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Pole Creek and Starvation Seeding Vegetation Treatments	10,300 Acres	Chemically treat and seed with native forbs, grasses, and shrubs; to convert exotic plant community to native perennials
Range Project Abandonment	38 fence miles; 19 spring developments; 21 pipeline miles	Remove fencing and spring developments (e.g.troughs, pipelines) and pipelines in pastures not allocated to grazing

(d) Star Valley Community Allotment (#01402)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
03/01 – 5/31	218 cows	661
03/15 - 10/31	33 horses	248

Pastures

Tristate	03/01 – 05/31 (Nouque and FMSA)
N. Tent Creek	closed
S. Tent Creek	closed
N. Stony Corral	closed

Proposed Projects		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Freeway Reservoir Rehabilitation	1 reservoir	Abandon reservoir and rehabilitate the area
Range Project Abandonment	22 fence miles; 2 spring developments	Remove fencing and spring developments (e.g.troughs, pipelines) in pastures not allocated to grazing

(e) Little Owyhee Allotment (#01404)

Closed to grazing

No Proposed Projects

(f) Quinn River Allotment (#01403)

Closed to grazing

No Proposed Projects

(g) Ambrose Maher Allotment (#01102)

Closed to grazing

No Proposed Projects

Alternative VI: No grazing for 5 years, restrictive grazing thereafter (Committee for Idaho's High Desert (CIHD))

Recommendations for resource management in LCGMA were received from CIHD in 2002. In addition, CIHD provided photographs to BLM that were taken in LCGMA and which alleged the general status of certain cultural sites, rangeland projects, resource conditions along certain riparian areas, and the appearance of rangeland near livestock concentration areas (reservoirs and troughs). The photos provided did not reveal any new information, problems, or issues relative to LCGMA in addition to what the Interdisciplinary Team observed and documented in 2000. About 600 upland and riparian digital photos were taken during the assessment in an effort to provide a factual and objective profile of resource conditions encountered.

CIHD's recommendations are summarized below, and an alternative has been crafted to accommodate both their written concerns and those depicted in the photos submitted.

The following list of recommendations for LCGMA was submitted by CIHD on May 19, 2002:

1) Maximum upland utilization of 35% on ALL lands. Reaching this level of use should trigger prompt removal of livestock.
2) No grazing use during critical growing periods for native grasses.
3) No hot season grazing use on riparian areas.
4) A 6" stubble height as a trigger for removal of livestock from pastures. This stubble height applies to ALL springs, seeps, streams, playas and other wetlands.
5) A 5% bank trampling standard (measured on livestock-accessible stream reaches) as a trigger for removal of livestock from pastures. This standard applies to ALL springs, seeps, streams, playas and other wetlands.
6) No water gaps or other sacrifice zones.
7) No salt blocks – salt licks serve as weed epicenters.
8) Vigilant and active herding by livestock permittees should be the technique that is used to distribute livestock.
9) No grazing use in areas with weed infestations until the weed infestation is eradicated.
10) Restoration of all non-native seedings to native vegetation.
11) No construction of new livestock "range" projects. GMA analysis must focus on removal of fences, pipelines, spring-gutting projects and other facilities that are impeding wildlife movement, providing perches for raptors and cowbirds, de-watering springs and seeps, etc.
12) Identification of lands unsuitable for grazing. Suitability analysis should include rockiness, distance from NATURAL water sources, fragility of affected lands, need to mend livestock damage to lands, and grazing conflicts with wildlife, recreation or other values of public lands. Since grazing permit buyouts are a reasonable possibility in the life of the GMA plan, all steps for this should be analyzed as part of this process.
13) A minimum of five years complete rest from livestock grazing for all pastures with riparian areas in Non-Functioning or Functioning-at-Risk riparian areas, including springs, seeps and streams.

14) Preparation of an EIS. Issuance of an Full Force & Effect order to put the above stubble heights, trampling standards, utilization standards, rest and other elements in place as interim management measures while the EIS is completed.

The BLM considers the following Alternative VI to be a reasonable interpretation of the management that would be required to implement CIHD's proposals:

Alternative VI emphasizes resting all pastures with riparian areas that are Non-Functioning or Functioning-At-Risk for a minimum of 5 years to "jump start" riparian recovery. All upland areas would be grazed to a maximum of 35% utilization during non-critical growing seasons, which is usually 5/1 – 7/1 for LCGMA. No hot season grazing use on riparian areas would occur. A 6" stubble height and a 5% bank trampling standard (measured on livestock-accessible stream reaches) would serve as triggers for removal of livestock from pastures with springs, seeps, streams, playas, and other wetlands.

No water gaps or salting would be allowed. Areas of weed infestations would be closed to grazing until weedy areas are fully restored to native vegetation. Crested wheatgrass seedings would be rehabilitated and converted to native rangelands. Existing rangeland improvement projects would be removed where not beneficial to key wildlife species of concern in the area, and no new range improvements would be constructed. Lands unsuitable for livestock grazing would be identified and not allocated for livestock forage. Vigilant and active herding by permittees would be required to distribute livestock. All pastures where BLM's data show degradation of soils, native vegetation, riparian/wetland areas, or wildlife habitat, or invasion of exotic species/noxious weeds, would be closed for a minimum of five years. After this time period, no livestock use would be allowed to resume until specific standards of recovery are met.

Louse Canyon GMA (all allotments) Projects Summary:

Pipelines	Remove 45 miles
Fences	Remove 13 miles
Troughs	Remove 38 miles
AUM change (#)	-15,357
Spring renovation/reconstruction	0
Spring abandonment	28 springs
Spring development	0
Upland Vegetation Treatments	24,300 acres

Grazing Systems and Projects by Allotment

(a) Anderson Allotment (#01401)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
3/01 – 4/30	680 cows	1,360

Pastures

Three pastures would be consolidated to form one pasture in Anderson Allotment

Proposed Projects Needed to Accomplish Alternative VI		
Projects	**Units**	**Comments**
Range Project Abandonment	7 miles of fence	Remove all pasture division fencing to form one pasture
Toppin Butte Reservoir Rehabilitation	1 reservoir	Abandon project, smooth and reseed to native species

(b) Campbell Allotment (#11306)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
10/01– 4/30	1643 cows	11,501
10/01- 4/30	16 horses	72

Pastures

Peacock	03/16 – 04/30
Starvation Brush Control	12/01 – 12/30
Starvation Seeding	01/01 – 01/30
Twin Springs	02/01 – 03/15
Horse Hill	10/01 – 11/30
Sacramento Hill	02/01 - 04/30 (350cows)
Larribeau	Trailing

Proposed Projects Needed to Accomplish Alternative VI		
Project	**Units**	**Comments**
Fence Removal	6 miles	Remove interior pasture fences in Twin Springs pastures to form one pasture
Pipeline and Trough Removal	About 10 miles of pipeline and about 6 troughs	Remove pipeline and troughs in Starvation Seeding, Starvation Brush Control, Twin Springs South, and Peacock pastures
Spring Restoration	5 springs	*HH-1* – remove pipe *Bell Spring* – remove trough, headbox, *Lower Bell* – remove trough, head box *Disaster Spring* – remove trough, headbox *Starvation Spring* – Remove trough, headbox
Starvation Seeding Vegetation Treatment	14,000 acres	Chemically treat and seed with native forbs, grasses, and shrubs; to convert exotic plant community to native perennials

(c) Louse Canyon Community Allotment (#01307)

* indicates new pastures created to facilitate livestock management.

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
10/01 –04/30	1767cows	2568
10/01--04/30	40 horses	160

Pastures

*Upper Louse Canyon	10/01 – 11/15 (Wilkinson, Nouque, Anderson)
*Lower Louse Canyon	11/16 – 01/30 (Wilkinson, Anderson)
Steer Canyon Seeding	02/01– 02/30 (Wilkinson)
Pole Creek Seeding	02/01 – 02/28 (Anderson)
Drummond Basin	03/01 – 04/30 (Wilkinson)

Proposed Projects Needed to Accomplish Alternative VI		
Project	**Units**	**Comments**
Pipeline and	About 35 miles	Remove pipeline and troughs in

Trough Removal	of pipeline and about 32 troughs	Louse Canyon, Steer Canyon Seeding, and Pole Creek Seeding pastures
Spring Restoration	19 springs	Remove spring development (troughs and headboxes, fences) at: *Edge, Chato, Cat, Bend, Petroli, Indian, Lone Tree, Flint, Jack Creek, Lime, Delma, Monopoly, New Road, Three Week, Coffee Pot, Exchange, Spare, Unknown* (border with Horse Hill) and *Rawhide* springs
Steer Canyon and Pole Creek Seeding Vegetation Treatment	10,300 acres	Chemically treat and seed with native forbs, grasses, and shrubs; to convert exotic plant community to native perennials

(d) Star Valley Community Allotment (#01402)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
10/01 –04/30	834 cows	5004
10/01 –04/30	67 horses	503

Pastures

S. Tent Creek	02/01 – 04/30 (FMSA and Nouque)
N. Tent Creek	11/16 – 01/30 (FMSA)
N. Stony Corral	10/01 – 11/15 (FMSA)
Tristate	11/16 – 01/30 (Nouque)

Proposed Projects Needed to Accomplish Alternative VI		
Project	**Units**	**Comments**
Freeway Reservoir Rehabilitation	1 reservoir	Abandon reservoir and rehabilitate the area
Spring Restoration	2 springs	Remove spring developments (troughs, headboxes) at *Oregon Butte* and *Cairn* springs

(e) Little Owyhee Allotment (#01404)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
02/01- 04/30	167 cows	670

Pastures

S. Tent Creek 02/01- 04/30 (year 1)
Rest (year 2)

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(f) Quinn River Allotment (#01403)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock Numbers	AUMs
10/01 - 11/15	15 cows	384
10/01 - 11/15	3 horses	63

Pastures

*Upper Louse Canyon 04/01 – 10/31 (9 horses)
03/16 – 07/30 (year 1)
Rest (year 2)

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed

(g) Ambrose Maher Allotment (#01102)

Grazing System

Use Period	Livestock numbers	AUMs
5/01 - 5/10	680 cows	224
9/15 - 9/30	200 cows	99
10/01 - 10/30	30 cows	30

Proposed Projects

No new projects would be built or reconstructed.

Other Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Further Analysis:

(1) No Grazing – *livestock grazing would not be allowed and all range improvements would be removed.*

The "No Grazing" alternative was eliminated from further study because it is not consistent with federal law (Taylor Grazing Act, FLPMA, PRIA), or the SEORMP. See the SEORMP, Alternative E, for analyses of the "No Grazing" alternative.

(2) Short duration/low intensity grazing – *livestock would be herded rapidly through the allotments with stops at various watering areas for short periods of 5 – 10 days. Most fences and pipeline systems would be removed. Most springs and reservoirs would be retained to provide water sources.*

This alternative was eliminated from further study because livestock permittees considered the intense herding effort to be impractical. This level of herd management would be cost prohibitive at current labor prices.